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Approved November 16, 2015

**MINUTES OF THE
PARK BOARD MEETING
Monday September 21, 2015**

Present: Ken Borgerding, Park Board Chairman
Lee Campbell
Lee Fell
Kathy Alred Lin
Sandra Wright
Dr. Mara Grujanac, Trustee Liaison
Scott Pippen, Operations Superintendent
Troy Taylor, Facilities Manager

Absent: Suzi Siegel
Ted Heiser

Location: Village Hall, One Olde Half Day Road, Lincolnshire Illinois 60069

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Borgerding called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Superintendent Pippen called roll and determined a quorum was present.

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the August 17, 2015 Meeting of the Park Board
(Village of Lincolnshire)**

The Park Board reviewed the minutes of the August 17, 2015 meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Ms. Wright, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

4.0 RESIDENT COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

4.1 None

5.0 RECREATION

5.1 None

6.0 PARKS

**6.1 Request for Revenue Sharing of Proceeds from Lincolnshire Sports
Association Summer Baseball Tournament (Lincolnshire Sports Association)**

Supt. Pippen noted that for the past two tournaments the Lincolnshire Sports Association (LSA) contributed all proceeds to the Village of Lincolnshire to be used for improvements at North Park. Revenues this year will be used for new pitching mounds and some new practice equipment. LSA has asked if moving forward they can use some of the funds to put back into their programs. Mr. Scott Harper, President of the LSA, presented the LSA proposal. Other area programs send their teams to out of town facilities, such as Cooperstown, and the LSA would like to be able to introduce a similar program using half of the revenues from the annual tournament. Mr. Pippen noted that the Village does

not budget based the tournament income but uses the funds for additional projects. Village staff has no objection to this request. Ms. Wright asked about the costs to the Village for hosting the tournament. Have they been considered? Mr. Pippen said that these are mostly labor but could be covered by a fee to be determined at a future date.

A motion was made by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Ms. Lin, as follows:

"The Park Board recommends to the Village Board the approval of revenue sharing with the Lincolnshire Sports Association for future tournaments with a Village fee to offset the cost of future tournaments."

The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

6.2 Continuing Discussion of the Concept of Pesticide Free Parks (Village of Lincolnshire)

Mr. Pippen summed up the presentation at the August meeting by Ruth Kerzee of the Midwest Pesticide Action Center (MPAC) regarding pesticide free parks. Her proposal was to take an area of approximately 40,000 sq. ft. of turf at Spring Lake Park and, for a fee of approximately \$10,000, maintain it using all organic products and assist the Village with publicity and signage to publicize the project. At the August meeting staff was asked to research the possibility and cost of doing a similar project in-house, and to talk with other communities who use similar products. We were able to contact Evanston. They started the program this spring in one of their smaller parks and feel it is too soon to tell if there is a difference. We contacted Highland Park and Glenview and were not able to get a response before this meeting.

Regarding cost, the quote from Greenwise provided by MPAC was \$10,000. If we want to do this in-house with the same materials, doing our own signage and publicity the cost would be approximately \$7,000. To put this in perspective the Village currently spends approximately \$7,000 for all of our parks, with the exception of North Park. The MPAC proposal would cover slightly under one acre. The Village has over 288 acres of park grounds.

Facilities Manager Troy Taylor was asked to attend this meeting because he is directly involved with the turf management at North Park. The North Park budget is slightly higher with more intensive maintenance than our other parks and the total cost is \$10,000 including seed, top-dressing and fertilizing for the 28 acres at North Park.

The proposed fertilizers are not significantly different from what we use currently. The pesticide suggested by MPAC, specifically corn gluten, is effective but has to be applied at exactly the right time and under exact conditions to be effective. Parks staff may not be available at that time. The pesticides suggested are still pretty new and there is not much data on how long they persist in the environment or how effective they are. Mr. Pippen feels our judicious use of chemicals by trained applicators already has a benign impact. Regarding publicity, will setting aside an area for pesticide free treatment give the impression that our other parks are treated with dangerous chemicals?

At the present time staff recommends that we not move forward with this program due to the cost and the fact that our current program is pretty benign. The Park Board could

defer a decision until more information on the proposed products is available and other communities have more experience with the program.

Chairman Borgerding asked for an elaboration of the agenda item memo which states that other items would be put on hold in order to budget for this program. Mr. Pippen said that taking on any new activity will take away from another. This money might have to come from funding for turf maintenance in other parks such as aeration, top-dressing and overseeding. Mr. Taylor said that equipment at North Park would probably have to be taken to other sites for the extra treatments and not available at North Park.

Chairman Borgerding recalled that in the past the natural area budget funds were cut in favor of active areas. The money could be redirected to the natural areas that have been let go for the past several years. He is concerned about the use of resources when the cost to maintain one acre is going to double the overall cost of turf care. He is also concerned about identifying one park as the 'healthy park' and the perception of our other parks as dangerous. Also the use of corn gluten, even though Ms. Kerzee said it is not the same as wheat gluten, will alarm some parents. If the idea is to show that we are cognizant of the issue, why don't we just publicize our existing responsible practices? We might qualify for another accreditation from the state or another organization that shows we responsibly manage turf. Mr. Pippen said that we can promote natural turf maintenance for homeowners on our social media and at the Village Hall. Ms. Wright commented that the purpose of their program as stated at the last meeting was to use parks as a model. There are ways that we can get that information out to our community that will serve the purpose without creating a budget item. Ms. Lin suggested that on an existing sign pole in a park we could add a sign that would describe the strategies used to minimize impact. The consensus of the Park Board is to continue our current maintenance program and possibly look for recognition on a local or national level of our landscape management standards.

6.3 Consideration and Discussion of a Proposed Rule Banning Golfing at North Park (Village of Lincolnshire)

Mr. Taylor presented information and photos about an ongoing turf damage problem at North Park. Some golfers are using turf away from the sports fields but the golf balls that are not picked up are damaging our mowers. Also, the mower blades spin at 18,000 feet per minute or 204 miles per hour making the golf balls very dangerous when hit by a blade. Another golfer is hitting inside the sports field causing turf damage. Currently there are no regulations about hitting golf balls in any of the parks. If the Park Board recommends banning the practice Mr. Pippen would discuss with the Village Manager if it can be done with a park rule or has to be a Village Code change.

Ms. Wright noted that each park has a designated set of features by design. North Park is a team sport park along with play equipment, tennis, picnic area and natural area. Each park should be designated for use as designed. Residents have not requested a golf park. If the community needs or wants a golf practice area they have not said so. Ms. Lin mentioned that there are a lot of golf balls at Rivershire and this is not a problem since it is not mowed. If people feel the need to hit balls they could be redirected there. Mr. Taylor added that a golf ball, though small, could cause a player to lose footing and be injured. Trustee Grujanac commented that the hazard of golf balls to players is a reason enough to ban them. Mr. Campbell asked if there would be a problem with the practice golf balls. Mr. Fell said these could still be an issue with cleats. The Park Board

will look into the possibility of a golf feature in the future, possibly a batting-cage type of feature, or a putting green possibly at Old Mill Park. The consensus of the Park Board is to look into a ban on golfing at North Park for the safety reasons presented.

7.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7.1 None

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Email from Park Board Member Hartman Resigning from the Park Board.

Mr. Pippen said that Dan Hartman has moved away from the Village and Mayor Brandt is actively seeking his replacement. Chairman Borgerding thanked Mr. Hartman for his time and service to the Village. He did a great job here and will be sorely missed.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

9.1 A motion was made by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Fell, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. Chairman Borgerding declared the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.
